

Regional Capacity Project Thresholds

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
November 12, 2024



We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.

psrc.org/equity

Background

Per federal and state requirements, as part of the Regional Transportation Plan PSRC must:

- Identify a regional transportation network, including existing and proposed facilities and operations
- Identify regionally significant additions or modifications to that network

Regionally significant projects – regardless of funding source – will not be approved if the project is not included in a conforming transportation plan



Background

- Further, per agreement with FHWA and FTA, regionally significant projects are submitted into the Regional Transportation Plan as Candidate projects
- Projects must receive Approval prior to implementation
 - Purpose is to ensure that projects as implemented are consistent with the information submitted into the plan and included in the conformity analysis



Background

To comply with these requirements, PSRC has developed a regional transportation network and thresholds to determine if a project is a *Regional Capacity Project*

- Thresholds exist for all modes – roadway, transit, ferries, bicycle/pedestrian, and ITS

In addition, all projects requesting submission into the plan respond to the adopted Plan Consistency Framework questions and are reviewed by the board prior to inclusion



Thresholds

TABLE 1: Projects Required to be on the Regional Transportation Plan Regional Capacity Project List and Subject to PSRC's Approval Process

Please note that there may be some overlap in the categories below.

Roadway Projects on principal arterials, State Routes or Interstates

- Capacity changes
 - Adding vehicle lanes
 - Removing vehicle lanes
 - Changing the configuration or usage of vehicle lanes
 - Other multimodal improvements that may affect vehicle usage or capacity such as Business Access Transit or High Occupancy Vehicle lanes
- Street realignment or relocation
- Continuous left turn lanes that extend between two principal arterials or state routes
- New interchanges
- Reconstruction of existing interchanges that add new fly-over ramps or new turning movements
- Grade separations
- Areawide multimodal improvements around transit stations

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Projects

- Projects over \$100 Million

Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Projects

- Projects over \$20 Million on separated pathways on dedicated rights of way

Transit Projects

- Park & ride lots resulting in more than 250 stalls
- New or relocated transit centers and stations
- New dedicated transit right of way, such as new alignments or tracks/infrastructure
- Bus flyer stops in the Interstate right of way

Ferry Projects

- New routes
- New or relocated ferry terminals



Thresholds

TABLE 2: Projects Exempt from PSRC's Approval Process & Not Required to be on the Regional Transportation Plan Regional Capacity Project List

Please note that there may be some overlap in the categories below.

All Planning Studies

Roadway Projects

- Any investment on minor arterials and below (with the exception of State Routes)
- The following work on any facility (including principal arterials and above):
 - Rehabilitation and maintenance
 - Safety (not impacting capacity or operations)
 - Operations (i.e., management of roadways, weigh stations, rest areas, studies, etc.)
 - New shoulders or changes to shoulder usage
 - Reconstruction of existing interchanges using the same alignment (additional lanes permitted, but not new turning movements)
 - Left turn lanes not continuous, or other intersection improvements

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Projects

- Projects under \$100 Million

Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Projects

- Facilities adjacent to and within roadway rights of way (bike lanes, sidewalks, pedestrian over/under-crossings etc.)
- Projects under \$20 Million on separated pathways on dedicated rights of way

Transit Projects

- New bus routes
- New buses, changes to bus service
- Bus amenities such as shelters, bus stop improvements, etc.
- Transit Maintenance and Operation bases
- Park & ride lots resulting in less than 250 stalls
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs (e.g., ridesharing, vanpooling, commute trip reduction programs)

Ferry Projects

- Changes to existing ferry service
- New ferries on existing routes



Thresholds

The current Bicycle / Pedestrian thresholds were developed under consultation with BPAC in 2016

- Focused on separated rights of way
- Determination not to simply address all trail projects as programmatic
- Determination of cost as the most logical surrogate to capture “large” trail projects
- *Still some definitional challenges*



Next Steps

- Process currently underway to update the Plan Consistency Framework
- RTP Call for Projects in March 2025

	2024				2025												2026					
	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	
Financial Strategy Reevaluation and Scenario Development																						
Project and Investment Submittals for Consideration																						
Policy Direction on Draft Plan Elements (incl. Safety & Climate action plans)																						
Draft Plan / Scenario Modeling																						
Review Preliminary Modeling / Scenario Analysis Results																						
Further Board Discussion and Refinements																						
Draft Plan Development																						
Draft Plan Public Review Process																						
Board Review of Public Comments / Final Draft Plan Development																						
Transportation Policy Board / Executive Board Recommendation of Draft Plan																						
General Assembly Action / Adoption of RTP																						

